

GOOD ROADS  
ARE CHEAPER THAN  
PRESENT ONES

# The Dispatch-News

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TODAY

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## COTTON ASSOCIATION HAS SALE FOR 300,000 BALES LOW GRADE

Dr. D. M. Crosson, county chairman of Lexington county of the Cotton Association, is in receipt of a letter from Col. R. M. Mixon, president of the South Carolina branch of the Southern Cotton association, setting out a plan which that body has for selling 300,000 bales of low grade cotton at prices ranging from 35 to 41 cents.

Dr. Crosson asks that every farmer come to the boll weevil meeting Thursday (tomorrow) prepared to say how much low grade cotton he is prepared to furnish the association to make up the 300,000 bales.

Dr. Crosson also requests those who cannot come to this meeting and who have such cotton to notify him as early as possible.

Col. Mixon's letter is as follows:

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 16, 1920.  
Dr. D. M. Crosson, Leesville, S. C.  
My dear Sir:

We have an offer for 300,000 bales of low grade cotton to be exported.

Foreign mill representatives are now in this country and are awaiting our action. We are asking for an option on this cotton good until February 10, under following conditions and terms:

Low middling cotton 41 cents per pound.

Strict good ordinary cotton 39 cents per pound.

Good ordinary cotton 37 cents per pound.

Ordinary cotton 35 cents per pound.

These prices are net to the seller, f. o. b. his shipping point. Cotton weighed and graded at shipping point.

The terms of sale are eighty per cent cash upon delivery; twenty per cent deferred payments, said deferred payments bearing interest at six per cent and secured by a syndicate of foreign banks, and guaranteed by their government. All securities are to be examined and approved before any cotton is delivered.

These foreign mills through their representatives recognize that they are asking for something unusual in requiring an option on this cotton, also in asking for twenty per cent deferred payments, and in consideration of this they are willing to pay a price substantially above the price for cotton as compared to the ruling prices on the open market.

The officers of the American Cotton Association realize that in a deal of this magnitude and on account of the unusual world conditions, it is very necessary to give these foreign mills the options sought to enable them to perfect their arrangements for handling a deal of this nature.

The mills to which this cotton goes have been idle for years, and this arrangement, if the holders of cotton back it up, will start these mills to consuming cotton and relieve our market of low grade cotton.

As soon as options sufficient are in hand, we will begin to receive and ship cotton. All options, with a warehouse receipt attached, or the equivalent thereto, should be deposited at a local bank which is authorized to deliver this cotton to the order of J. S. Wannamaker, President American Cotton Association, only after the terms of the option have been fully complied with. The form of option will be forwarded to you as soon as it is received from lawyers representing the buyers.

I, therefore, urge you to see in person the owners of low grade cotton and call a meeting at your county day, January 21st, at your county seat, urging all holders of cotton to be present and pledge every bale of low grade cotton in your county for this export shipment. Call their attention to the fact that 80 per cent of our prices equals the price now being paid for such cotton at interior points.

If anything stands in the way of your carrying out this program, please advise us and do your best to arrange to have a substantial citizen in your county to act in your place.

Hoping that you will give this matter your prompt attention, I am,

Yours very truly,

R. M. MIXSON,

President South Carolina Division American Cotton Association.

**LAND BRINGS HIGH RENT ALSO.**  
Bennettsville Advocate.

We hear of land renting for 125 pounds of long staple cotton per acre for this year. That will be over \$100 an acre rent at present prices.

No wonder farming land in Marlboro is worth up to \$700 an acre.

## CHIEF KELSO ARRIVED IN LEXINGTON FRIDAY

Declaring that he felt ten years younger than he did when he first placed his foot on Lexington soil some ten years ago, and looking as hale and as hearty as a sixteen year old boy, Capt. Chas. H. Kelso, the big chief from Cleveland, Ohio, arrived in Lexington Friday to spend the remainder of the winter and a part of the early summer at his winter home here. As soon as the big-hearted, whole-souled chief alighted from an automobile, the people began to greet him with a hearty welcome. Both old and young have learned to love him, and every one holds him in affectionate regard.

Soon after arriving here Mr. Kelso hoisted his big American flag at his home on College Hill, and those who had not heard of his arrival knew that the big man from Cleveland had arrived. Chief Kelso is an American citizen. He loves this country with all the ardor of his being, and every time he comes to town he raises the stars and stripes over his bungalow.

Chief Kelso first came to Lexington about ten years ago, having been brought here by Hon. Frank W. Shealy. Mr. Shealy happened to be in Florida, and Chief Kelso was spending the winter there. By chance the two men met and they at once became chums. The friendship grew between them until they soon became bosom friends. When Mr. Shealy returned to Lexington he was soon followed by Mr. Kelso. After remaining here for some days as the guest of Mr. Shealy, Mr. Kelso became attached to the people of Lexington, as well as to the climate, and it was not long before he had made up his mind to spend the winters, during the remainder of his life, in this splendid little village. He waited for an opportunity to buy real estate. A few years ago he purchased the old Palmetto Collegiate Institute building on College Hill. He converted this into two of the prettiest residences of the bungalow type to be found anywhere, and now he has become a real Lexingtonian.

Mr. Kelso, or Chief Kelso, as he is affectionately called by all of his friends, is one of the most prominent men of Cleveland. For years he has held the position of Chief detective for a large syndicate of electric railways, one of the biggest in the United States. He is also deputy sheriff of his county besides being connected with numbers of other enterprises. He is a Democrat from the top of his head to the sole of his feet. He had charge of William Jennings Bryan's special train during the two times the great Commoner made the race for the presidency, and he and Mr. Bryan are strong personal friends.

Chief Kelso will go to Florida to spend a few days about the last of February, but will return to his home here about the middle of March.

## DRUGGIST TO MEET AT JOHNSTON

Dr. Rice B. Harmon, chairman, has called a meeting of the druggists of the eleventh circuit, which comprises the counties of Lexington, Edgefield, Saluda and McCormick, at Johnston on Thursday, January 29.

At the last meeting of the State Pharmaceutical Association it was decided to organize the State by judicial circuits in order to facilitate the matters of the State association. Dr. D. T. Riley, State president, appointed Dr. Harmon organizer for the eleventh circuit, an honor which he worthily deserves. He is one of the foremost druggists in the State, being head of the Harmon Drug Co., one of the largest retail drug establishments in this section of the Carolinas.

Dr. Harmon expects to have a large and enthusiastic meeting at Johnston.

## RIDGELL BILL NOW BEFORE LEGISLATURE

Special to The Dispatch-News.  
Columbia, Jan. 21.—The Ridgell road bill, substantially as printed in The Dispatch-News, was introduced by Senator Ridgell in the senate Tuesday night. The bill carries a provision to borrow \$100,000 for a term of years, the money to be used for the purchase of road machinery and the completion of the Augusta road by contract. The bill took the usual course, being referred to the committee on local legislation.

## BABY IS LEFT ON HIGHWAY

Wrapped in swaddling clothes, a bright blue eyed girl baby was found in a basket on the Augusta highway about seven miles west of Lexington late yesterday afternoon by Mr. Hampton Laird who happened to be passing in his automobile. The basket with the innocent babe was in the middle of the highway, and Mr. Laird saw it in time to stop his car before passing over the object.

Gently picking the basket up Mr. Laird was surprised and dumbfounded when he realized that he had found a baby. He brought the package to Lexington and delivered it to Sheriff Miller at the county jail. Upon examination it was found that the basket did not even contain a change of clothing for the child. Besides one tiny dress, a pair of socks and the outing cloth with which the infant was wrapped, there was nothing. No milk bottle, no pacifier nor anything to aid the comfort of the abandoned child. No note or anything was left that would give any information throwing light on the perpetrators of the heartless crime. The tracks of a man and the tracks of a woman were found near the basket.

Sheriff and Mrs. Miller took the little one in and ministered to its needs, and each of the hundreds of persons who called at the county jail last night were of the opinion that the child could not have fallen into better hands.

Sheriff Miller stated that he would make an effort to locate the guilty parties. It is the consensus of opinion that the child was left in the road by travelers, it being inconceivable that anyone in the neighborhood would be guilty of such a cruel and heartless act as to place a four weeks old infant out in the cold on a highway where hundreds of automobiles pass daily and at such a late hour in the evening.

## HENRY PICKENS ROBERTS.

On January 16, 1920, Mr. Henry P. Roberts died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. E. G. Wingard, Lexington, S. C., aged 81 years, 5 months and 25 days. His own home was destroyed by fire the day before his death.

He was married to Miss Hattie E. Meetez, Jan. 27, 1867. To them were born nine children. His companion and six survive him, as follows: Mrs. S. H. Wingard, Mrs. E. G. Wingard, Mrs. W. A. Smith, Messrs. H. A., W. I. and R. F. Roberts, all of Lexington and vicinity. Also twenty-eight grand children and one great grand child survive; three children and five grand children are dead.

He entered the War Between the States at the beginning and went through without a scratch from the enemy.

He was a faithful and honored member of Providence E. L. Church, and while his sufferings were long and severe, yet his passing was like the falling asleep of the way-worn traveler. He confessed faith in Savior's grace.

The funeral services were held in Providence church on Sunday at eleven o'clock, attended by a large concourse of relatives and friends, conducted by his pastor, assisted by Rev. W. H. Riser. The floral tribute was beautiful.

O. B. SHEAROUSE.

## DREHER RESIDENCE AT SELWOOD BURNED DOWN

About midnight Thursday night the residence of Messrs. Heber R. and Edward L. Dreher, of Selwood, was burned down. When the occupants of the house awoke the flames had gained a considerable headway, and soon spread to two other buildings, both of which were destroyed. Nothing in the kitchen and dining room was saved, while most of the things in the living rooms were removed by the heroic efforts of those present.

Besides losing a lot of foodstuffs, sixty bushels of peas were lost. The Dreher home was among the old colonial buildings in the Dutch Fork, and was one of the prettiest and best appointed in that section. No insurance was carried, and the loss falls heavily on the owners.

Messrs. Heber R. Dreher and Edward L. Dreher are grateful to their friends, both white and colored, for kindly assistance rendered, which enabled them to save other nearby buildings, and also save their household effects.

## LOCAL TALENT GIVE MINSTREL

At last it may be said that everything is in readiness for the big show to be given tomorrow evening at the Lexington High School auditorium by the local post of the American Legion and some of its friends. Not a single thing has been omitted to make the opening night a success. Every part is known perfectly, and in addition there will be a lot of original stunts pulled tomorrow evening that not even the others in the cast will have heard before.

The cast includes Sam Leaphart, Frank Wingard, Cyrus Shealy, Willard Wingard, Tom Sox, John Sox, Gus Barre, John Schneider, Lewis Roof, Bert Whitaker, Ernest Sawyer, Julian Corley and Jack Carroll. Mrs. C. H. Van Ormer is the pianist.

The auditorium has a limited seating capacity and only enough tickets will be sold to fill it comfortably, so that those who have not already provided themselves with tickets would do well to call at one of the drug stores and get them without delay. Seat sale began Monday morning and they have been going steadily since.

The management has one request to make of the audience, and that is, no matter how well they may be pleased with the jokes and the dancing, or thrilled by the music, or fascinated by the funny antics of the end men, don't get the idea that it is a professional troupe, but remember that it is composed entirely of local boys, many of whom are trying out on the stage for the first time. This may be hard to conceive when the snap and precision and thoroughness of the performance is seen, and when it is reflected that they have worked up this show only for your amusement and to help in raising funds to furnish their club rooms in the Corley building, but to think of it as a professional production would be setting a precedent that probably would handicap Neil O'Brien and Al Fields in their work for many years to come, to say nothing of the disparagement it would be to Honey Boy Evans' outfit and Co. in their honest efforts to provide a temporary relief from the monotonous hum-drum of everyday life.

Those who expect to attend the minstrel tomorrow evening are again admonished that the doors will be closed promptly at eight o'clock and kept closed until the first act is over. The boys would be glad for all who come to see the show from soup to nuts (they can't miss the nuts), and it is respectfully urged that seats be occupied before the opening hour, so that not only will you see the whole show, but that you may not annoy those already seated.

The American Legion is composed of ex-service men. The Lexington Post contemplates furnishing a home in the Corley building at Lexington where good, wholesome, and moral association may be had. It would be open to all, whether they were in the service or not, and if you are interested in helping the boys in such worthwhile undertaking, you can do so by attending the minstrel, and at the same time get more than your money's worth in laughs.

## BATESBURG GROWING RAPIDLY.

John Bell Towill Says Population Figures Will Show Big Increase.

Among visitors in town Monday was John Bell Towill of Batesburg, who was quite enthusiastic about the growth of the thriving town where he now makes his home. Mr. Towill, who has just completed taking the census at Batesburg, says that the 1920 figures will show a great increase of population for Batesburg. On all sides are evidences of prosperity and continued growth, there being at present at least twenty or more handsome residences in course of construction. At present there is not a vacant house in the town and many houses are accommodating two and three families.

The town of Batesburg has employed an expert to teach tobacco culture to the farmers of the section and this crop will be largely grown around Batesburg the coming year.

## NEXT SUNDAY AT BAPTIST CHURCH

At the Lexington Baptist church next Sunday, Jan. 25th, I will preach on the following subjects:

11 o'clock A. M.—"A Warning to Protestantism."

7 o'clock P. M.—"The Forerunners of Christ's Second Coming."

E. H. Fundelank, Pastor.

## SESSIONS COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR FIRST HALF OF WEEK

### THINKS SUPERVISOR SHOULD BE ELECTED

Mr. S. E. Smith Urges Cooperation of All Concerned For Good Roads.

Editor Dispatch-News:

I beg among others, to submit my views on the Ridgell proposed good roads bill, which taken as a whole, I consider a great improvement on anything we now, or ever have had in Lexington County. I beg to differ with the Senator however, on a few articles of his bill.

First, I think our Supervisor should be elected by the direct vote of the people in the primaries. When we consider the vast amount of funds this office handles, it is readily seen that it is one of, if not the most important in the gift of our people, and I do not think any 4 men comprising the legislative delegation, however efficient they may be, should have the power to fill it. I believe, too, that the appointment by the Circuit Judge, upon recommendation of the grand jurors, of the commissioners is the best plan to secure a competent board, because a commissioner is thus secured from each district, and there is no politics as I see it in this, as the office seeks the man and any man in anyway seeking the office, by this act, disqualifies himself for it. Then again, if an incompetent, or unsatisfactory man is put in, he can be retired after one year, and a good one can be re-appointed as the law now provides. Again, I dare say no two districts can build and maintain their roads by the same plans, so I think this should be left to the judgment and discretion of the several commissioners, whom the law provides, shall be competent and business men. Next, I do not think any new road should be opened, or an old one closed, except by an intelligent petition, stating competent reasons, and endorsed by those whom such action would most benefit or injure as the case might be.

I very earnestly believe, too, that all of the automobile tax of this and every county in South Carolina, should be returned to the roads funds in the township in which the cars are assessed.

This, with our present high taxes, would raise the necessary funds with which to build and maintain our County roads.

In justice to Senator Ridgell, who is a warm personal friend of mine, and for whom I have the greatest respect, I want to say that I do not think his proposed bill is in anyway a political scheme with him, as has been suggested, and I feel sure that he welcomes a fair and impartial discussion of it.

I believe I voice the sentiments of 75 per cent of the voters of my district, and of Lexington County, when I say, as I have said, in the campaigns of 1916 and 1918, that our citizens do not object to high taxation, even to the \$5.00 computation tax, provided they obtain the benefits deserved and reasonable to expect, but they are darned tired of such taxation without any benefits, and I predict now that the present delegation, unless they get together, stay and work together on the good roads proposition in our county, devising some plan whereby we may see this high tax money spent advantageously, equally and well, will likely find it necessary to defend their positions, if they are candidates in the approaching primaries, and explain to the dear people the whys, and wherefores of it.

In conclusion, friends, let me remind you that any bills and arguments will fail without the necessary funds to finance it, and likewise, the funds will be useless without some well defined plan, the conscientious term work of our delegation, and the earnest and hearty co-operation of the citizenship of our County. These, altogether, will do the work. Let's have them, say I.

I thank you, Mr. Editor for space, etc.

S. E. SMITH.

Swansea, S. C., Jan. 19th, 1920.

## BOX PARTY AND CAKE WALK AT CONGAREE SCHOOL HOUSE

There will be a box party, cake walk and other entertaining features at Congaree school house on Friday evening, January 30, commencing at 8:20 o'clock. The proceeds will go toward improving the school. Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

The regular mid-winter term of the court of general sessions for Lexington county convened on Monday morning with the Hon. James W. DeVore, of Edgefield, presiding. Judge Prince, who was to have presided, was detained at home on account of illness.

On account of the absence of one of the grand jurors, that important body did not get organized until after the noon hour. Judge DeVore delivered a strong and impressive charge to the grand jury, referring first to their general duties, and then branching off into a discussion of the public affairs. The Court laid stress upon the fact that the grand jury should first acquaint themselves with the law governing all public officials before entering into an examination of the books and records. He urged the members to make no accusations unless they knew the same to be true. Judge DeVore took occasion to compliment Sheriff Miller and the several magistrates of the county on the prompt attendance of all witnesses.

The grand jury should examine the public schools of the county, said Judge DeVore. Teachers should be paid better salaries. "You can't get a first class teacher for a second class price," he said. "It is better to have log school houses and competent teachers than to have brick palaces with incompetent teachers," he said. The grand jury was admonished to keep a close watch on all violators of the criminal law.

The first case called for trial was that of the State against Clifton Chavis, former policeman of the town of Cayce, who was charged with having shot and wounded Dallas Craft, postmaster of the same town. The trial consumed all of Monday, every inch of ground being hotly contested, the defendant being represented by former Governor Cole L. Blease. The case was given to the jury early yesterday morning and after remaining out until late in the afternoon a verdict of guilty was found. The defendant has not as yet been sentenced.

The case of Tillman Pinckney, a negro of Swansea who is charged with the murder of his wife, was next taken up and is still in progress today. He is represented by Judge C. M. Efrid and Cols. George T. Graham and T. C. Callison.

Pleas of guilty were entered by the following defendants: Lincoln Shealy, young white man charged with taking automobile without owners consent, was given 3 months on the chain gang or a fine of \$75.00.

John Henry Johnson, negro charged with housebreaking and larceny was sentenced to serve a period of two years.

George Curtis, a young white boy, entered a plea of guilty to the charge of stealing an overcoat and was given a sentence of eighteen months.

Lewie Goff and Henry Reynolds, white, entered pleas of guilty to the charge of assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, upon pleading guilty, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$50.00 each or serve three months. S. B. Strickland, charged jointly with Goff and Reynolds later entered a plea of guilty to the same offense and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$65.00 or serve four months.

Frank Wheeler, a negro, entered a plea of guilty to the charge of forgery, and received one year.

Adam Singleton, negro, charged with intent to kill, received a fine of \$35.00 or three months.

Robert Woods, Lexington negro who a few months ago killed a fine mule the property of Mr. L. L. Parker, well known lumberman, entered a plea of guilty and was given a sentence of two years at hard labor.

The grand jury yesterday returned a true bill against Jack Summers, one of the negroes charged with the murder of young Harrold Suber at Peak, which occurred some weeks ago. Summers will likely be tried during the week.

### AID THE CENSUS.

It is the duty of every citizen of Lexington to aid in the census in order that the town of Lexington, as well as the rural districts of the county, be placed in its true light. If any one has been overlooked the matter should at once be called to the attention of the census department. Every community should have what is coming to it, and this can only be accomplished by the closest co-operation of the people. Let every one get in the 1920 census.